

## SUMMARIES OF ARTICLES

### *Analytic Philosophy, Psycho-Analytic Theory and Formalism*

Grahame LOCK

*In recent years there has been a resurgence of formalism in both English-language philosophy and in French psycho-analytical theory. In Britain and the United States, this has involved a return to a (certain interpretation of) Tarski and Frege — as in the work of Donald Davidson and Michael Dummett. At the same time, the influence of the later Wittgenstein has been severely reduced. And Davidson's view of the epistemological status of Freudian theory is quite different from that of Wittgenstein. In France, Frege played a rôle in inspiring the search for the « mathemes » of psycho-analysis. But are these formalizing tendencies not all based on a misguided « calculus view » of language ?*

### *The German History and the Notion of Totality : Ranke, Droysen, Lamprecht*

Catherine DEVULDER

*In the opposition between Ranke and Droysen's historiography and Lamprecht's Kulturgeschichte, it appears that the notion of totality is inherent in history. The interpretative method of historiography is made possible by the hermeneutical circle between past and present. The historical object is the globality of the state or the nation and includes the unity of « moral communities » and « psycho-social forces ». The unification of the historical data is organized as Zusammenhang by Ranke, Zustand by Lamprecht inside the temporal continuity.*

*Spectacle or Experimentation :  
Prefabrication of Ships in 1679*

Hélène VÉRIN

*In 1678, Colbert made to his Naval Intendants a strange proposal : to get a warship of 26 to 30 cannons built in two days, in the sight of the king. For this spectacle, each Intendant elaborated the programme, distributed the rôles, set up the machinery, organized rehearsals during one year. The correspondance between the Ports and the Court shows the vagaries of the project. The specific solutions adopted in each naval dockyard transformed the preparation for a spectacle into a test of diverse working choices. Why, after some hesitation, did they become convinced in the Ports, and did they want to convince the Court, that this exhibition could become a true production ?*

*Intellectual Community and Institutional  
Strategies : Henri Berr and the Founding  
of the Centre International de Synthèse*

Giuliana GEMELLI

*In this essay Giuliana Gemelli analyses the development of the Centre International de Synthèse, created by Henri Berr in 1925, in terms of socio-fonctional analysis of a particular and very large community of inquiry. After a discussion about the academic resistance to the institutionalization of the « synthèse », the author analyses the anthropological and social focus of this community of inquiry and illustrates its dynamics by examining the more general context of the social and intellectual transformations in French society during the thirties. This article is a contribution to a larger study of the intellectual community and the organisation of social sciences in France during the first half of the century.*